Losses by Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd

1295. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will tne PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited is sustaining loss continuously;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the approximate amount required in setting up of a similar unit;

(d) whether the IDPL is not getting patronage from the Government Hospitals for its products;

(e) if so, the reasons thereof;

(f) whether the company is going to be sold out or closed down;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to make up the losses and to revamp the unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited(IDPL) has been incurring losses for past several years. The net loss incurred by the company was Rs. 42.74 crores in 1989-90 and Rs. 88.26 crores in 1990-91. The major reasons for losses are high wage component, low capacity utilisation, obsolescence in technology, high interest burden and fixed costs, non-availability of raw materials and the constraints of working capital.

(c) The cost of setting up of a similar unit would be approximately Rs. 400 crores.

(d) and (e). The average share of IDPL in the estimated Central/State Government annual purchases of medicines is 10%. There is no special patronage of preference in Government purchases to IDPL.

(f) to (h). There is no proposal of either sale or closing down of IDPL at present. The package for improvement in the performance of IDPL would involve stepping up of capacity utilisation, emphasis on higher sales, exports, increase in efficiencies by savings on services and utilities, cost reduction, improvement in the system of collection of outstanding dues and voluntary retirement schemes etc. Besides, it would involve heavy investments, write-off of Government loans and funds for working capital.

Change of Syllabus by UPSC

1297. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Public Service Commission has made any changes in the syllabus for the subject of Political Science and International Relations for the Civil Services Examination;

(b) whether the academic bodies have represented to the UPSC in this context; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The new scheme of